

Legislative Reference Service

WEEK ENDING 3/10/00

HOUSE BILLS ONLY

NO. 4

CODE ENFORCEMENT

H-7202 CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION (Moura & Reilly) This act would require contractor registration information to appear on bid proposals. Corporations

H-7265 LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT (SanBento & Others) This act would permit property owners of homes built prior to 1976 to install replacement windows without the necessity of any building permits. Corporations

H-7285 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION (Schadone & Others) This act would require that carbon monoxide detectors be installed in all buildings hereinafter constructed or converted for residential occupancy as well as existing residential dwellings prior to the transfer or sale of such property. Corporations

H-7630 ELECTRICIANS (Long & Quick) This act creates a Class D limited maintenance license issued to municipalities, schools, hospitals, colleges, or other nonmanufacturing firms who employ one or more licensed electricians to perform electrical maintenance on the premises owned by the applicant. Corporations

H-7650 SMOKE DETECTOR (Montanaro & S. Anderson) This act would raise smoke detector inspection fees to \$30.00. Corporations

H-7762 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION (Wasylyk) This act would impose a carbon monoxide detector requirement on residential properties. Compliance with this requirement is to be demonstrated by the seller upon the transfer of the property. This act would also impose inspection requirements upon sellers of residential properties. Judiciary

H-7792 LOCAL BUILDING OFFICIALS (McCauley, Jr.) This act would amend the provisions of the law related to the qualifications and pretesting program affecting the local building officials and local inspectors. Corporations

H-7931 STATE REHABILITATION CODE (McCauley, Jr.) This act would allow the Building Code Standards Committee to adopt a rehabilitation code for existing buildings and structures, and coordinate said code with other codes and regulations. Labor

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

H-7118 SCHOOL BUSES (Russo & Voccola) This act would require that all school buses be equipped with safety belts for children. H.E.W.

H-7124 EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL COMPETENCY LEARNING (McNamara & Others) This act would provide for the establishment of emotional and social competency learning programs in local school districts by developing guidelines for model programs in this area. H.E.W.

H-7146 CLASS SIZE (Abdullah-Odiase & Others) This act would provide funds to ensure that class size is reduced in primary grades in public schools that are located in high poverty areas, and whose students have demonstrated low performance on standardized tests. Finance

H-7163 SCHOOL BUSES (Garvey & Others) This act would require all school buses to be equipped with a rear-facing flashing strobe light, and further provides the conditions under which such lights are to be used. Highway Safety

H-7208 SCHOOL AND MUNICIPAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY (Mumford & Others) This act provides grants to cities and towns for projects

undertaken specifically to comply with the Department of Education's and the Department of Health's joint health and environment recreational facility safety regulations, and/or to provide access for people with disabilities.

Finance

H-7220 TEXTBOOKS (Slater & Others) This act would provide that the commissioner shall publish annually a list of textbooks for use in the public schools which would include mathematics, science, English/language arts (including literature, poetry, grammar and composition), history, social studies (including psychology, sociology, economics and civics/government) and foreign languages. H.E.W.

H-7225 KINDERGARTEN (Montanaro & Others) This act would establish a full-day kindergarten investment fund to offer a full-day of education to kindergarten students. Finance

H-7249 SPEED NEAR SCHOOLS (Gorham) This act allows for a 35 mile per hour speed limit zone within 300 feet of a school if it has a federal highway within 300 feet. Highway Safety

H-7271 TEACHER CERTIFICATION (Lanzi & Others) This act would establish a Rhode Island education certification board, which would be empowered to issue teacher certifications and would also deal with issues related to teacher certification. H.E.W.

H-7311 STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS (Bramley & Others) This act would prohibit the use of students' social security numbers for purposes of identification. H.E.W.

H-7368 ACCESS TO STATE FACILITIES (Palangio) This act would allow high school students to use library and computer facilities at state institutions of higher learning in the community where they reside. H.E.W.

H-7371 TEXTBOOKS (Fox & Others) This act would add English and social studies textbooks to the list of textbooks in use in the public schools available to loan to all resident pupils free of charge. H.E.W.

H-7380 STOPPING FOR SCHOOL BUSES (Kilmartin) This act would give peace officers the authority to issue summons based on the statements

of school bus drivers and bus monitors as to violations of the requirement to stop for school buses. Judiciary

H-7394 TEACHER ASSISTANTS (Benoit & Others) This act would require that special education teacher assistants complete a training program specific to children with special needs, and would also require that the Department of Education and the Department of Health establish guidelines for the use of certified nursing assistants for certain medically involved students. H.E.W.

H-7397 GENOCIDE AND HUMAN RIGHTS (Garabedian) This act would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop curricular material on genocide and human rights violations and issues, including: the transatlantic slave trade, the great hunger in Ireland, the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust and Mussolini's fascist regime. H.E.W.

H-7411 SCHOOL BUSES (Corvese & Others) This act would require school buses to be installed with carbon monoxide strips, and, if the level of carbon monoxide rises to a level above what is deemed as safe, the bus shall be repaired. H.E.W.

H-7415 SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL ACT (Cicilline & Others) This act would establish advisory councils for each school to assist in the preparation and evaluation of the school improvement plan. H.E.W.

H-7423 SCHOOL DIVERSITY OFFICER (Cicilline & Others) This act would provide for a diversity officer in each school of the state. H.E.W.

H-7458 VIOLENCE PREVENTION (Crowley & Palumbo) This act would require the development of violence prevention and crisis intervention for the public schools in each city/town. H.E.W.

H-7460 CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAMS (Crowley) This act would establish crisis intervention programs in all elementary, middle or junior high schools, and high schools. H.E.W.

H-7464 STANDARDIZED TESTING (Crowley & Benoit) This act would amend the provisions regarding the use of standardized tests in certification of teachers. H.E.W.

H-7471 CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS (Crowley) This act would repeal the section of law which allows for the issuance of a teaching certificate without a satisfactory score on the standardized teachers exam. H.E.W.

H-7472 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED (Crowley & Others) This act would amend the provisions regarding the participation of students in commercial activities through their school. H.E.W.

H-7473 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES (Crowley & Benoit) This act would provide state aid to foster and group homes and/or residential facilities for purposes of education, and would provide reimbursement to the Department of Children, Youth and Families. H.E.W.

H-7488 TARGETED SCHOOL AID (Jacquard & Corvese) This act would remove the requirement that school districts have a free and reduced lunch count in grades K-3 greater than 40% in order to receive targeted school aid. Finance

H-7493 SCHOOL MILK (Crowley) This act would provide that funds received from the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission shall be passed through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to reimburse school districts for school milk. Finance

H-7494 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS (Crowley) This act would mandate the participation in interscholastic athletics for all children in grades 1 through 12 in public schools. Finance

H-7498 METAL DETECTORS (Lima) This act requires metal detectors be installed in all school buildings containing students in grades 6 through 12. Finance

H-7517 RESIDENCY – PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (Crowley & Others) This act would preclude municipalities from having residency requirements for any and all employees of our public schools in that city/town. Corporations

H-7553 FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ACT (Lima & Smith) This act would require students 16 years old or older who are receiving cash assistance to have no more than 10 unexcused absences from school per quarter to maintain eligibility. H.E.W.

H-7598 TRUANCY OUTREACH (Smith & Others) This act would require the Department of Human Services to adopt an outreach system, in cooperation with school departments, for families with children who are truant. Finance

H-7599 TRUANCY OUTREACH (Smith & Others) This act would authorize the Department of Human Services, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and local school districts to establish an information-sharing methodology for verifying the residency of families with children who are beneficiaries of the family independence programs administered by the Department of Human Services. Finance

H-7609 TRUANCY INVESTMENT FUND (Smith & Others) This act would establish an elementary and secondary education truancy investment fund to assist school districts to improve attendance rates. Finance

H-7610 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL INVESTMENT FUND (Smith & Others) This act would provide funds to school districts for public school students chronically subject to suspension. Finance

H-7611 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM (Smith & Others) This act would establish an Alternative School Pilot Program to be adopted by the Board of Regents of Elementary and Secondary Education and the local school committees for the purpose of educating children who have been expelled from school or have otherwise been determined to be unsuitable for attendance at a regular school. Finance

H-7612 ACCOUNTABILITY FOR STUDENT PERFORMANCE (Smith & Others) This act would impose additional requirements upon school districts to include standards aimed at maintaining an orderly educational environment in district strategic plans. Finance

H-7619 EDUCATION TRUST FUND (Reilly & Others) This act would create an education trust fund, to be funded by lottery and/or gambling revenues, to be distributed on a per student basis. Finance

H-7659 OPEN MEETINGS (Reilly & Others) This act eliminates the requirement that school committees publish notice of their meetings in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district. H.E.W.

H-7668 PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGGING (Abdullah-Odiase & Others) This act would prevent any school official from requiring that a child be placed on a psychotropic drug as a condition to remaining in school. H.E.W.

H-7670 CONTINUING EDUCATION (Abdullah-Odiase & Others) This act would require the Board of Regents to establish more specific continuing education rules and regulations for elementary teachers and administrators, which include reading instruction and training which would be effective toward a diverse student population. H.E.W.

H-7735 STATE-WIDE EARLY READING (Abdullah-Odiase & Others) This act would require a State-Wide Early Reading Success Institute. Finance

H-7786 AIRPORT EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION (McNamara & Others) This act would require immediate notification by an airport to all schools within an aircraft's flightpath during a phase 2 airport alert. Corporations

H-7787 AIRPORT NOISE (McNamara & Others) This act would require that the Director of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education make regulations protecting school children from chronic noise exposure while in school. Corporations

H-7807 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY (Lopes & Abdullah-Odiase) This act would require that the history courses taught in public schools contain information on notable African Americans. H.E.W.

S-2834 CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS (Sasso) This act would require that prospective teachers pass a computer proficiency examination as a prerequisite to certification and that teachers who are already certified pass the same examination within 2 years of the effective date of this act. H.E.W.

ELECTIONS

H-7230 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES (G. Levesque & Others) This act provides that the presidential primary, commencing 2004, will be held on the first Tuesday in February. Special Legislation

H-7307 PRIMARY ELECTIONS (Garabedian) This act would provide for an open primary system, whereby any properly registered voter may vote in a primary election for any candidate, regardless of party affiliation. Judiciary

H-7309 LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES (Garabedian & Long) This act would change all references to “bipartisan” election activity to reflect the current multi-party status in Rhode Island, and adds the “Cool Moose” party to the protected names section. This act would also change the size and composition of local canvassing authorities. Special Legislation

H-7319 CONDUCT OF ELECTION BY MAIL (Garabedian) This act would establish a voting procedure whereby the voter is permitted to choose whether to vote in person or by mail. This act would provide that every voter be mailed a ballot by the Secretary of State, and then the voter may choose to vote by mail, or take his/her ballot to the appropriate polling place. Finance

H-7507 BALLOTS FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED VOTERS (Lima & Others) This act would make Braille and tactile ballots available for visually impaired voters who file a written request at least 30 days before an election. Special Legislation

H-7708 RESIDENCE ADDRESSES OF CANDIDATES (Watson & Callahan) This act would add the residence address of the candidates to the ballots. Special Legislation

H-7796 MUNICIPAL ELECTIVE OFFICE (Shavers & Others) This act would allow a city/town by charter or ordinance to permit municipal employees to hold municipal elective office in that city/town. Special Legislation

H-7797 ELECTION PARTY LEVERS (M. Anderson & C. Levesque) This act would eliminate party levers in elections. Special Legislation

H-7927 ELECTION OFFICIALS (M. Anderson & Others) This act would allow persons who are employed as officers or employees of the United States, of this state, or of any city/town of this state to be appointed as an election official, and would allow various cities/towns to reduce the number of supervisors for polling places under their jurisdiction. Special Legislation

S-2700 CLOSING OF POLLS (Coderre & Others) This act would set the statewide poll closing time as 8:00 p.m. Judiciary

ENVIRONMENT

H-7190 REFUSE DISPOSAL (Dennigan & Others) This act would require the Department of Environmental Management to make unannounced inspections of processing and recycling facilities on a quarterly basis. Environment and Energy

H-7383 CLEAN AIR IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS (Reilly & Others) This act would require the installation of air filters in all schools and public buildings. Finance

H-7504 STATE OWNERSHIP OF TIDAL LANDS (Ginaitt & Others) This act would provide for the conveyance of submerged and filled tidal lands in the state. Further, this act would permit the CRMC to lease submerged lands to riparian owners. Environment and Energy

H-7774 LITTER CONTROL AND RECYCLING (McCauley) This act would extend enforcement of litter control and recycling to housing authority personnel. Corporations

FINANCE AND TAXATION

H-7175 SCHOOL AID (Gorham & Others) This act would provide for an annual minimum 5% increase in state aid to education. Finance

H-7192 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT (Moura & Others) This act would create the Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2000. Finance

H-7194 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Moura & Others) This act would increase the amount of state aid appropriated to municipalities pursuant to the PILOT Program. Finance

H-7335 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Moura) This act provides a payment by the state in lieu of taxes for any state or municipally-owned convention center. Finance

H-7338 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Moura) This act includes in the general assembly appropriations in lieu of property tax from certain exempt private and state properties any state-owned facility utilized for other than governmental purposes. Finance

H-7346 MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAXES (Iwuc & McNamara) This act would require the state to reimburse taxpayers for tangible personal property tax levies paid on motor vehicles for the year 2000. Finance

H-7348 PROPERTY REVALUATIONS (Pires & Others) This act would increase the costs borne by the state for requiring the cities and towns to revalue. Finance

H-7349 SPECIAL EDUCATION (Reilly & Others) This act would require the state to assume the costs to the cities and towns for special education, starting with 10% of those costs the first year and 100% after 10 years. Finance

H-7437 PROPERTY EXEMPT (Palangio & Abdullah-Odiase) This act provides that buildings owned by certain tax exempt property holders shall not be exempt from taxes if the property is used for residential purposes. Corporations

H-7439 RELIEF FROM ASSESSMENT (Pires & Others) This act would provide that appeals to the local office of tax assessment shall be forwarded to the local board of review in the event a taxpayer is aggrieved by the assessor's decision or if the assessor renders no decision. Corporations

H-7555 MUNICIPAL DEBT (Pires & Others) This act would make changes to the provisions regarding the issuance of municipal debt. The act generally gives municipalities greater flexibility in issuing and incurring debt. Corporations

H-7556 TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY (Pires) This act provides that tangible personal property be taxed for the full year in the city/town where it is assessed and not prorated if the owner has moved to a different city/town. Corporations

H-7562 EXCISE TAX PHASE OUT (Pires & Others) This act defines maximum taxable and net assessed value of vehicles under the elimination act, and provides for reimbursement to cities and towns based on these values. It also requires lessors to give lessees an estimate of the annual excise tax payable throughout the lease, and provides for a rebate of any overage of the estimated tax above the actual tax annually. Finance

H-7593 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Jacquard & Others) This act would provide that any new construction directly related to or in furtherance of the A.C.I. would be eligible for P.I.L.O.T. payments. Finance

H-7605 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Smith & Others) This act would include any state-owned convention center or municipally-owned civic center in the section providing for general assembly appropriations in lieu of property tax. Finance

H-7607 BUDGET SURPLUS (Smith & Others) This act provides that 15% of any budget surplus be distributed to the cities and towns in the next fiscal year. Finance

H-7617 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Giannini & Others) This act would gradually increase the percent of the state appropriations in lieu of taxes, starting with 35% on July 1, 2001, and finally reaching 50% as of July 1, 2003. Finance

H-7631 LOW INCOME HOUSING (Reilly) This act would reduce the taxation applicable to qualifying low income housing, and make such taxation applicable to residential properties issued occupancy permits, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Corporations

H-7635 REVENUE BONDS (Fox & Others) This act would provide that, in calculating the limitations of revenue bonds, there shall not be included in the calculation 50% of the outstanding principal amount of any bonds issued for projects for which the authority or the municipality receives school housing aid. Corporations

H-7645 TAX EXEMPTION FOR ELDERLY (Jacquard & Others) This act would extend the filing deadline to April 15th of the tax year. Corporations

H-7661 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT (Moura & Others) This act would create the Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2000. Finance

H-7731 PAYMENT OF TAXES AND FEES BY CREDIT CARD (Long & Amaral) This act would authorize payment by credit card of taxes or fees owed to state or local governments. Finance

H-7733 REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX (Scott & Others) This act provides that each municipality shall retain the entire real estate conveyance tax, and denote 50% of that retained to preserving open spaces. (Finance

H-7739 VETERANS (Iwuc & Others) This act would extend veterans benefits to all veterans with an honorable discharge. Veterans Affairs

H-7751 TIME-SHARE ESTATES (Shavers & Others) This act would provide that the managing entity responsible for operating and maintaining fee time-share real property shall be considered the taxpayer, as an agent of the time-share period title holder. Judiciary

H-7791 PROPERTY EXEMPT (Shavers & Others) This act would require city and town councils to authorize exemptions from taxation for certain nontaxable entities within the city/town. Corporations

H-7826 SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (Williamson) This act would provide increased funding for special education for fiscal year 2000-2001. The act would also establish a legislative commission to evaluate the scope and costs of services to special education students in Rhode Island. Finance

H-7827 TOBACCO SETTLEMENT (Williamson) This act would require all funds received by the state from the tobacco settlement to be distributed equally to the cities and towns. Finance

H-7833 POWER TO BORROW MONEY (Williamson) This act would permit municipalities to borrow money from recognized financial institutions in order to acquire certain types of properties. Corporations

H-7857 HOME HEATING OIL (Kelley & Others) This act would exempt from taxation inventories of #2 home heating oil. Finance

H-7876 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Costantino & Others) This act would include a municipally-owned civic center as qualifying for a general assembly appropriation in lieu of a property tax. Finance

H-7878 MOTOR FUEL TAX – LOCAL ROADS (Costantino & Others) This act would increase the motor fuel tax paid to the tax administrator from 28 cents to 31 cents per gallon, and said funds shall be transferred to cities and towns for the purpose of repairing and repaving local roads. Finance

H-7880 FARM, FOREST, AND OPEN SPACE LAND (Kelley & Others) This act would drop the requirement to file an annual certificate to maintain a classification for farmland, forest land or open space land. Corporations

H-7895 HOTEL TAX (Sherlock & Others) This act would divide the hotel tax in equal portions between the state and the municipality in which the hotel is located. Finance

H-7896 MOTOR VEHICLE RENTALS (Sherlock & Others) This act provides that 50% of the sales tax on automobile rentals would be distributed to the city/town where the automobile was rented. Finance

H-7897 CONTINUATION OF TAX RATE (Sherlock & Others) This act would provide that when a quasi-public corporation acquires real property,

the corporation would continue to pay taxes at the same rate as the former owner. Finance

H-7898 PARKING GARAGE TAX (Sherlock & Others) This act would impose a 7% sales tax fee upon an individual who parks a vehicle in a garage of 1 or more levels, and would distribute the total tax in full to all municipalities. Finance

H-7899 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Sherlock & Others) This act provides for an alternative computation for state education aid funding, and adds any airport serving over 1,000,000 passengers a year to the General Assembly appropriations in lieu of property tax program. Finance

H-7901 LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS (Sherlock & Others) This act would require tenants of quasi-public corporations, which are business for profit, to be liable for taxes on any leasehold improvements. Finance

H-7976 HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION (McCauley) This act would amend the Rhode Island Health and Educational Building Corporation Act by allowing for a broader array of health care providers and financing, such as capital notes, and would offer other financial assistance to eligible recipients in furtherance of the Corporation's purposes. It further provides definitions for "notes", "capital notes", and "revenue anticipation notes". Corporations

H-8007 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Russo & Voccola) This act would provide for an appropriation to cities and towns with property of the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation located therein to reimburse them for the cost of services provided. Finance

H-8015 PENSION FUND REFINANCING (Slater & Others) This act allows municipalities to issue pension fund refinancing bonds to fund unfunded pension liability. Corporations

H-8024 TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST (Heffner & Lewiss) This act would provide that a tax exemption created by either the general laws and/or a public law shall not be affected by the transfer of property to a revocable living trust. Judiciary

S-2831 HOTEL TAX (Paiva Weed & Cicilline) This act would provide that the percentage of the hotel tax given to the city/town where the hotel which generated the tax is physically located be raised from 25% to 30%. Finance

LABOR RELATIONS

H-7150 ARBITRATION OF LABOR CONTROVERSIES (Moura & Others) This act provides that unless the parties to a labor contract agree otherwise in writing, any grievance submitted pursuant to the terms of a collective bargaining agreement shall be arbitrable. Labor

H-7155 ATTORNEY'S FEES (Moura & Others) This act requires that the prevailing party be compensated for costs and reasonable attorneys' fees if a motion to stay and/or enjoin an arbitrator's award is denied. Labor

H-7240 SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM (Faria) This act would require workers, who are employed on a construction project financed in any way by the state or a municipality, to complete a 10 hour construction ergonomics safety awareness program. Labor

H-7375 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES DISPUTES (Moura & Faria) This act would provide for a method of arbitration, as an alternate way to settle disputes, to be a recognition solely of the necessity to provide an alternate method where employees are denied the usual right to strike. Labor

H-7376 CONFLICT BETWEEN AGREEMENT AND CHARTER/ORDINANCE (Moura) This act would provide that in the event of a conflict between a collective bargaining agreement for a public sector employer and a public sector employee organization and an ordinance or charter of a city/town, the conflict would be resolved in favor of the collective bargaining agreement. Labor

H-7412 GROUNDS FOR VACATING AWARD (Moura) This act would provide that no arbitration award be set aside or vacated on the basis of arbitrability, alleged conflict with public policy or on the basis of alleged conflict with statutory provisions. Labor

H-7413 DEFINITION OF FIREFIGHTER (Moura) This act would expand the definition of “firefighter” for purposes of the Firefighters’ Arbitration Act. Labor

H-7417 OPEN MEETINGS (Moura & Reilly) This act would include hearings and discussions related to a grievance pursuant to collective bargaining agreement as a purpose for holding a meeting closed to the public. Judiciary

H-7418 OPEN MEETINGS (Moura & Reilly) This act would include hearings and discussions related to a grievance pursuant to collective bargaining agreement as a purpose for holding a meeting closed to the public. Judiciary

H-7455 SCHOOL TEACHER DISPUTES (Crowley) This act would provide that a finding of irreparable injury or harm would not be necessary to support the issuance of an injunction during a teachers’ strike. Labor

H-7456 SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM (Lanzi & Others) This act would require contractors who bid on a construction project financed in any way by the state or a municipality to have a 10 hour construction ergonomics safety awareness program. Labor

LIQUOR CONTROL AND LICENSES

H-7237 CLASS B LICENSES (Vieira & Others) This act would grant discretion to municipalities to restrict or prohibit entertainment licenses at establishments with Class B licenses. Corporations

H-7251 PAWNBROKERS (Simonian & Others) This act would require notification to all property owners living within a 250 foot radius of pawnbrokers. Judiciary

H-7331 PREMISE LIABILITY INSURANCE (Henseler) This act would require all establishments which have liquor licenses, except manufacturers and wholesalers, to maintain premise liability in an amount of \$500,000. Special Legislation

H-7357 CLASS A LICENSES (Corvese – By Request) This act would provide that a holder of a Class A retail liquor license will be permitted to conduct without charge, on the premises of the licensee, sample wine tastings for prospective customers of wines available at the licensee’s outlet. Special Legislation

H-7361 SUNDAY SALES (Corvese – By Request) This act would allow Class A liquor license holders to open on Sundays beginning on the Sunday before Thanksgiving to the Sunday before New Year’s day, from the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on those days. Special Legislation

H-7451 KEGS OF BEER (Crowley & Others) This act would require kegs of beer to be tagged with the name and address of the purchaser, and a disclaimer. Special Legislation

H-7703 WORK ON HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS (Quick & Kelley) This act would allow associations or corporations receiving a permit from a city/town or state licensing board or commission to employ the necessary persons to conduct the event; and adds an exemption to the payment of time and one-half wages and the voluntary work provision on Sundays and holidays for work of absolute necessity. Labor

H-7712 CLASS A LICENSE (Smith & Others) This act would prohibit gas station owners from possessing a Class A liquor license. Special Legislation

PLANNING AND ZONING

H-7273 ZONING ORDINANCES (Menard & Barr) This act would amend the definition of “Family Day Care Home”, and provide a definition for “Family Group Day Care Home” as they pertain to municipal zoning ordinances. Corporations

H-7308 RHODE ISLAND DEVELOPMENT FEE ACT (S. Anderson & Lanzi) This act would allow cities and towns to impose development impact fees through a uniform mechanism. Corporations

H-7447 ZONING ORDINANCES – SPECIAL USE VARIANCES

(Kilmartin) This act would amend certain provisions of the law relating to special use variances under zoning ordinances. Corporations

H-7448 ZONING – PERMITTED USES (Kilmartin) This act would direct that any pharmacy which is a permitted use, or use granted by variance or special permit, to also have as a permitted use the right to have a drive-thru window for purchase of prescriptions. Corporations

H-7632 RHODE ISLAND DEVELOPMENT FEE ACT (Gorham & S. Anderson) This act would allow cities and towns to impose development impact fees through a uniform mechanism. Corporations

PUBLIC SAFETY (POLICE AND FIRE)

H-7114 EXPUNGEMENT OF RECORDS (SanBento, Jr. - By Request) This act permits the expungement of all records relating to the complaint by the court and/or law enforcement agency. Judiciary

H-7134 SUBCONTRACTING OF FIRE, POLICE AND RESCUE SERVICES (Henseler) This act would establish regulations relative to the wages paid to private employees working as a subcontractor for any municipality. Corporations

H-7152 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Carter & Faria – By Request) This act would delete the statutory definition of “totally and permanently disabled”. Labor

H-7215 DNA DETECTION (McNamara & Others) This act would make DNA detection applicable to individuals convicted of breaking and entering and assault with a dangerous weapon. Judiciary

H-7224 THERMAL IMAGING DEVICES (Montanaro & Others) This act would require the state to provide handheld thermal imaging devices to municipal fire departments and districts on a per capita basis. Finance

H-7245 THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA GRANT PROGRAM (G. Levesque & Others) This act would establish a grant program for thermal imaging camera equipment within the state division of fire safety. Finance

H-7255 REPORTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (Garvey & Others) This act would require police officers' reports to include information that a cellular phone was in use at the time an accident occurred. Highway Safety

H-7275 EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (Lanzi & Others) This act establishes a good Samaritan immunity for emergency medical transportation service workers. Judiciary

H-7276 NFPA 1500 (Lanzi & Others) This act would impose a fine for failure to comply with the requirement that fire departments implement NFPA 1500. Corporations

H-7315 POLICE OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS (Rabideau & Moura) This resolution amends, reinstates the life of and extends the reporting date of the special legislative commission to review and revise the Police Officers' Bill of Rights from February 14, 1995 to January 19, 2001. Labor

H-7321 UNINSURED MOTORIST – REGISTRATION PLATES (Reilly – By Request) This act would permit all purchasers of Rhode Island mandatory vehicle insurance to waive uninsured motorist coverage. It would require notice by the registrar to local police authorities, if the registration plates are not returned to the registrar, to remove and return the plates. Corporations

H-7342 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION (Williamson) This act would require any juvenile with the duty to register as a sexual offender to annually register in person with the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction, for a period of 15 years. Judiciary

H-7355 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION (Corvese & Others) This act would amend Megan's Law in requiring offenders to register with police departments within 24 hours of relocation. The act would also place time limits upon the notification and classification process. This act would also establish a community notification awareness fund, which would reimburse cities and towns for the notification process. Judiciary

H-7440 PRIVATE DETECTIVES (Barr & Others) This act would amend the provisions regarding the licensing and regulation of private detectives. Corporations

H-7509 LAW ENFORCEMENT CONSOLIDATION (Ferguson) This act would grant the commission on standards and training oversight authority over all police agencies. Corporations

H-7580 LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES (Quick & Kelley) This act would amend regulations relative to the use of vehicles by law enforcement officers. Judiciary

H-7629 MUNICIPAL POLICE – INCENTIVE PAY (Kelley & Others) This act clarifies that incentive pay for municipal police would be provided for college courses in law enforcement or criminal justice. Corporations

H-7644 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS AND DEPENDENTS (Montanaro & Others) This act would give 3% cost-of-living increases in sums received by widows, widowers or children of firefighters. Corporations

H-7671 ONE-TIME DEATH BENEFIT (Moura & Others) This act would provide for a payment of a one-time \$100,000 benefit to the family of a firefighter, police officer, Rhode Island state marshal and certain other persons who are killed or die from injuries sustained in the line of duty. Finance

H-7676 FIRE PROTECTION PLAN (Dennigan & Others) This act requires construction and demolition debris processing facilities to have their fire protection plans approved by the municipality in which they are located in order to operate. Corporations

H-7699 FIRE APPRATUS (McCauley & Others) This act would exempt fire apparatus from the provisions of the chapter governing size, weight and load limitations. Highway Safety

H-7722 WEAPONS (Sullivan & Others) This act would require a certification of a retired police officer's retirement status prior to the attorney general issuing a license or permit to carry a pistol or revolver. Judiciary

H-7771 PEACE OFFICER (McCauley) This act would add housing authority personnel to the list of individuals considered “peace officers”.
Judiciary

H-7810 PURCHASE OF FIREARMS (Carpenter & Others) This act would consolidate the applications for the purchase of firearms. Judiciary

H-7819 911 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE (Palangio & Winfield) This act would establish an enhanced 911 emergency telephone system. Finance

H-7820 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Palangio & Others) This act would establish a pulmonary and coronary disease disability for firefighters who, because of pulmonary or coronary disease, are unable to perform their duties. Corporations

H-7821 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Palangio & Others) This act would provide benefits to firefighters for various forms of cancer and respiratory diseases. Corporations

H-7840 PRESUMPTION OF DISABILITY (Palangio & Palumbo) This act would add coronary or pulmonary illnesses to the list of illnesses presumed to be disabling to firefighters. Labor

H-7903 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (Palumbo & Others) This act would require the Director of the Department of Corrections to conduct a public hearing and submit an economic impact analysis prior to any change of a security classification or discontinuance of a security perimeter tower. Judiciary

H-7959 FIREFIGHTER PLATES (Lowe) This act would amend the volunteer fire company motor vehicle plates statute to provide special plates for members of a fire department and retired firefighters. Special Legislation

H-7961 FIRE DETECTION SYSTEMS (Lowe) This act would provide for increased rates for inspections of fire detection systems in residences from \$20.00 to \$25.00, and creates a \$40.00 fee for inspection of rooming houses. Corporations

H-7981 F.O.P. PLATES (Carter) This act would authorize the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to issue special plates to active and retired full-time police and law enforcement officers who are members of the state Fraternal Order of Police. Special Legislation

H-8030 SECURITY OFFICERS (Kilmartin) This act would provide that all full-time security officers employed by the traffic tribunal shall have the same immunities as sheriffs and city and town police officers when enforcing the laws of this state. Judiciary

S-2815 OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGES (McDonald & Sosnowski) This act would authorize municipal governments to regulate outdoor shooting ranges. Judiciary

RETIREMENT

H-7133 OPTIONAL RETIREMENT – POLICE AND FIRE (Henseler) This act would amend the formula for determining police officers' or firefighters' final compensation for retirement purposes. Corporations

H-7168 VESTING – NUMBER OF YEARS (Faria) This act would reduce the number of years required for vesting in the State Retirement System from 10 to 5 years. Labor

H-7241 RETIREMENT ON SERVICE ALLOWANCE (Picard) This act would permit certain persons to receive credit in the State Retirement System for time which counts as service credit in any other retirement system. Finance

H-7246 SUBSTITUTE TEACHING AFTER RETIREMENT (Menard & Others) This act would allow a retired teacher to substitute for an absent classroom teacher for a period of 100 days, and would calculate the method to determine a day period. Corporations

H-7485 POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT (Palangio & Others) This act would increase the gross amount retired state employees can earn working part-time in state or municipal government to \$12,000. Finance

H-7491 SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS (Crowley) This act would exempt new school superintendents from mandatory membership in the State Retirement System. Finance

H-7492 ARMED SERVICE CREDITS (Ferguson) This act would allow the purchase of armed service credits without regard as to whether those credits count as service credit in any other retirement system in which the member is vested or from which the member is receiving a pension. Finance

H-7495 POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT (Crowley & Pires) This act would increase the maximum amount of part-time mean gross pay to \$12,000 from \$10,000. Finance

H-7664 RETIRED EMPLOYEES – HEALTH CARE PLANS (Moura) This act would allow retired state employees and retired teachers to choose from all health plans available to active state employees. Finance

H-7667 PENSION REVOCATION AND REDUCTION ACT (Cicilline & Others) This act would correct various citation errors, and would add city/town retirements to the section's application. Finance

H-7760 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES (Flaherty & Others) This act would strike the Employees Retirement System of Rhode Island from the list of agencies exempted from the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. Judiciary

H-7936 CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Moura & Faria) This act would change, as of June 30, 1998, the actuarial method used by the Employees Retirement System, and would include contributions for state employees, state police, judges, and teachers. Finance

TOWN AND CITY CLERKS

H-7257 PUBLIC RECORDS (Flaherty) This act would clarify which governmental records are public or confidential. Judiciary

H-7300 PUBLIC RECORDS (Cambio & Others) This act requires that public records are recorded in written or recorded minutes. Judiciary

H-7344 ELECTRONIC RECORDS (Kennedy & Others) This act would address the legal sufficiency and admissibility of electronic records. Judiciary

H-7589 SAME SEX MARRIAGE (Pisaturo & Others) This act would authorize same sex marriages. Judiciary

H-7590 CHILD SUPPORT LIENS (Millard & Long) This act would eliminate recording fees for child support liens. Judiciary

H-7726 PUBLIC RECORDS (George & Others) This act would place the Public Records Administration Program under the purview of the Secretary of State. Finance

H-7849 ADOPTION – BIRTH CERTIFICATES (Benoit & Pires – By Request) This act would create a right for an adopted person 18 years of age or older to obtain a copy of his/her original birth certificate. The act also establishes a contact veto registry system which would prohibit the adopted person from contacting those relatives that file a contact veto with the contact veto registry system provided, however, that copies of original birth certificates would not be available to adoptees until the contact veto registry system has been in place for 1 year. H.E.W.

H-7920 UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE (Aiken & Others) This act would repeal the existing Chapters 5, 8 and 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code, and replace these chapters with new provisions consistent with those recommended by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Judiciary

H-7938 GUARDIANSHIPS (Heffner & Others) This act would permit guardianship petitions to be filed without initially filing a decision making assessment tool. This act would also permit the court to appoint a guardian as an appraiser of the ward's estate. Judiciary

MISCELLANEOUS

H-7126 TOWN HOUSING AUTHORITIES (C. Levesque & Others) This act would provide for tenant commissioners to the town housing authorities. Corporations

H-7127 CITY HOUSING AUTHORITIES (C. Levesque & Others) This act would provide for tenant commissioners to the city housing authorities. Corporations

H-7149 PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS (Moura & Others) This act would revise the bidding process for public works projects in Rhode Island. Labor

H-7187 TOWN HIGHWAYS (Knickle & Others) This act would require the State to construct and maintain sidewalks on State highways, causeways, and bridges. Finance

H-7188 SIDEWALKS (Knickle & Others) This act would make the state, and not a city or town, liable for damages from injuries suffered due to neglect or defect by reason of any sidewalk or curbing within a town upon a state highway. Judiciary

H-7244 CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP (Menard & Others) This act would require municipalities to provide the same services they provide to single-family residences to condominiums or in the alternative to reimburse condominiums the cost of the services. Corporations

H-7487 PUBLIC – PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2000 (Fox & Others) This act would provide for the acquisition, improvement and construction of transportation facilities within the state. It would further provide provisions for private entities for acquisition, approval, powers, duties, default, and remedies. Finance

H-7499 MOTOR FUEL TAX – LOCAL ROADS (Costantino & Others) This act would apply one-half cent from the motor fuel tax toward municipal roads to be administered by the Department of Transportation. Finance

H-7516 INJUNCTIVE RELIEF (Fox & Others) This act would allow the Attorney General to intervene in minimum housing violation matters. Corporations

H-7636 ALTERATION OF ROADWAYS (Fox & Others) This act allows cities and towns to adopt ordinances and regulations imposing fees on public utilities and contractors who alter roadways. Fees would include charges relative to administrative, engineering and inspection costs. Corporations

H-7637 PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS – FRANCHISES (Cicilline & Others) This act would provide protection of existing businesses in telecommunications and related cable services. Corporations

H-7684 WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (Long & Quick) This act would provide for a due process review of complaints relating to violations of the laws pertaining to weights and measures. Judiciary

H-7689 LEAD PAINT (McCauley & Others) This act provides a statute of limitations in which certain entities may bring a law suit for damages involving lead paint. Judiciary

H-7690 GOVERNMENTAL TORT LIABILITY (Fox & Others) This act would allow cities and towns to decide, as the state does, whether or not to indemnify an employee who is the subject of a law suit for an action which may or may not be in the line of duty. Judiciary

H-7715 TOWN AND CITY SEALERS (Mumford & Others) This act would provide additional options for the tolerance testing of the equipment used by the municipal sealers of weights and measures. Corporations

H-7716 PARKING CASH-OUT PROGRAMS (Ajello & Others) This act would provide for employer-sponsored parking subsidy programs which give the employee the option of receiving subsidized parking or an equivalent cash allowance. This act would also require cities and towns to grant appropriate reductions in parking requirements otherwise applicable to new and existing commercial developments that implement parking cash-out programs for those developments. Corporations

H-7757 GOVERNMENTAL TORT LIABILITY (Flaherty & Others) This act would increase the tort liability of cities, towns and fire districts from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Judiciary

H-7830 GAMING CONTROL AND REVENUE ACT (Williamson) This act would provide for the regulation of casino gambling if it is established in this state. Finance

H-7850 ACQUISITION OF LAND (Aiken & Others) This act would provide for compensation by the state to municipalities and fire districts for lost revenues when the state acquires land, real estate or other property within that municipality. Finance

H-7995 EMPLOYMENT SECURITY (Moura & Palumbo) This act would establish a 0.03% employment security reemployment assessment to be paid by all contributory employers for tax years 2001, 2002, and 2003. This assessment will be offset by a 0.03% reduction in each employers' unemployment insurance tax rate. Finance

H-7996 EMPLOYMENT SECURITY – BENEFITS (Moura & Palumbo) This act would clarify the liability of reimbursable employers for benefits paid to former employees prior to an appeal that overturns a previous decision awarding benefits. Labor

H-8004 SERGEANTS AND CONSTABLES (Kilmartin) This act increases the fine to one hundred dollars for anyone who refuses to assist a sergeant or constable in the execution of the office. Judiciary

H-8020 OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGES (Lally & Others) This act would authorize municipal governments to regulate outdoor shooting ranges. Corporations